HUMANITIES

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California's Sesquicentennial – More Than Just a Birthday

From January 1998 through September 2000, California will commemorate the 150th anniversary of historic events that led to its birth as a state: the discovery of gold, the rush of 49ers from around the world, the Constitutional Convention in Monterey, and California's admission as the 31st state in the Union.

Big birthdays often make us reflect on our lives, with both pride and regret about the past and hope and determination for the future. California's Sesquicentennial will be an occasion for all Californians to reflect on their state's history and its future. What will we admire? What will we condemn? Who will we choose to remember? Who will we choose to forget? What does it *mean* to be a Californian?

To encourage Californians to gather together and discuss their history, the California Council for the Humanities is inviting proposals from local organizations throughout the state for public and media projects that focus on the events, echoes, and repercussions of the state's foundational events. Grant guidelines can be obtained from Council offices in San Francisco, Los Angeles, and San Diego.

In addition, to ensure that all parts of the state are able to participate in this commemoration, CCH is developing a variety of projects on Sesquicentennial subjects for distribution to a statewide network of local organizations.

The Council's Sesquicentennial Projects

■ Chautauqua Presentations

Scholar-performers will travel the state, bringing to life twelve important historical figures who helped shape California before and after the discovery of gold. In dynamic presentations, these scholar-performers present in-person portrayals of the historical character, remain in character to answer questions from the audience, and, finally, speak as contemporary experts offering modern perspectives on the lives and times of these historical figures.

The Council will be scheduling these characters, singly and in groups, during 1998-2000 in state historic parks, libraries, and other sites conducive to both presentation and interactive dialogue. Audience members will receive a copy of a brief booklet about the character, with an interpretive essay, a timeline, and suggestions for further reading.

■ Gold Rush Traveling Exhibit

The Council has contracted with the Oakland Museum of California to create a 1000-1200 square-foot traveling exhibit based on the museum's major "Gold Fever!" exhibition and illustrating both the events and the legacy of the Gold Rush period. During the Sesquicentennial, the exhibit will travel to a dozen sites throughout the state.

The exhibition – and associated educational and public humanities programs - will also serve as a focal point for other programs such as public lectures, reading and discussion groups, and chautauqua presentations, beginning in April 1998.

■ Sesquicentennial Anthology and Reading Groups

In the fall of 1997, Heyday Books, in association with the Council, will publish the definitive anthology on the California Gold Rush. Replete with first-hand accounts and stories of the period and illustrated with historic photos and line drawings, the 500-page anthology will be sold in bookstores throughout the state. In addition, the book will be available free to many public libraries hosting reading groups that discuss the anthology.

■ California Conference: February 5 - 7, 1998

Next year's California Studies Conference in Los Angeles will focus on key Sesquicentennial subjects. The Council is joining the California Studies Association and the University of Southern California to bring scholars, journalists, policy makers, and California citizens to commemorate and consider anew the legacy and significance of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo, which ended the war between Mexico and the U.S., and the discovery of gold. The conference will include major speeches, two dozen interactive panel discussions, exhibits, walking tours, and cultural performances.



Mary Ellen Pleasant, a former slave who fled to San Francisco and became a wealthy Gold Rush entrepreneur, civil rights activist, and philanthropist, is one of twelve historical personalities who will be portrayed in the Council's California Sesquicentennial chautauqua programs. Independent scholar Susheel Bibbs will portray Pleasant.

What You Can Do

The Council's Sesquicentennial projects, however broadly conceived, cannot hope to encompass the rich detail of local history and heritage in the state's towns and regions. We intend them to provide both a base and an occasion for local activity and participation. Join our effort!

- If you belong to an organization that could host one of our projects, contact us!
- If you are planning educational Sesquicentennial programs of your own, let us know about them!
- If you have a local network of cultural organizations interested in Sesquicentennial programming, let us know about it.
- If you'd like to become part of our statewide network of cultural organizations, contact us.

In the next several years, we will be telling and re-telling the stories that make California the exceptional place that it is. These stories and our re-telling of them will remind us that someday future Californians will look back at how we met our own challenges.

Our immediate challenge is to remember together our history and celebrate our future in ways that honor all Californians, both the living and the dead. If we do so, the California Sesquicentennial will leave a legacy for our state and our communities that the next generation will want to honor as well.

Help us create that legacy!



"San Francisco in July 1849" by George Henry Burgess (oil on canvas, 1891) is part of the Oakland Museum of California's "Gold Fever!" exhibition (also see California Sesquicentennial Grant Awards on page 2). The Oakland Museum has also won the contract to create the Council's California Sesquicentennial Traveling Exhibition, which will visit a dozen sites throughout California between 1998 and 2000.

Network

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The California Council for the Humanities is a state-based affiliate of the National Endowment for the Humanities. The Humanities Network is published quarterly and mailed to anyone who requests it from the San Francisco office.

Grants Awarded

CALIFORNIA SESQUICENTENNIAL

Green and Gold: California's Environmental History, A Public Conference

Sponsor: Department of Environmental Science, UC Berkeley
Project Director: Carolyn Merchant
Amount of Award: $10,000 in outright funds
On the occasion of the California Sesquicentennial, this 1998 environmental history conference will focus on the changing relationship between nature and human commerce, as well as on how water and land resources have been used, developed, conserved, and restored over time. Plans call for the use of innovative formats that invite participation from the general public in this wide-ranging examination of the historical interactions between humans and nature in California, both before and after the Gold Rush. The conference will be held on the UC Santa Cruz campus July 30 to August 2, 1998.

The California Gold Rush Sesquicentennial Lectures

Sponsor: CSU Sacramento Foundation
Project Director: Kenneth Owens
Amount of Award: $10,000
The sixteen lectures in this series re-examine the California social experience during an era of unparalled voluntary migration and massive cultural innovation. Developed for the general public, these lectures will encourage audiences to consider new ideas, fresh evidence, and innovative perspectives. Topics include the literature and art of the Gold Rush, the significance of the Mormon participation, the legal impact of the Gold Rush experience in California and elsewhere, and the diffusion of mining and other technologies that resulted from the Gold Rush. Lecturers include J.S. Holliday, Patricia Nelson Limerick, Susan Johnson and Jeremy Mouat. The series is scheduled to begin in October 1998.

Forgotten Voices of the Gold Rush

Sponsor: FYI Media, San Mateo
Project Director: Dianne Fukami
Amount of Award: $10,000
Chinese Americans, African Americans, Native Americans, Women and Latinos all participated in California's Gold Rush. But their stories and contributions have not often been told. This script for a television documentary seeks to reveal some of the little known stories of the other Gold Rush participants. Plans call for the finished documentary to be screened at the Oakland Museum in conjunction with its Gold Rush exhibition and to air throughout the state during the California Sesquicentennial commemoration.



From "The U.S. - Mexican War." Courtesy of Special Collections Division, The University of Texas at Arlington Libraries, Arlington, Texas.



From "Gold Fever." Faro scorekeeper, six shot pepperbox percussion revolver, California poker deck, drinking glass, and checkerboard game box. Courtesy of the Oakland Museum of California. From "Gold Fever."

Gold Fever! The Lure and Legacy of the California Gold Rush

Sponsor: Oakland Museum of California
Project Director: L. Thomas Frye
Amount of Award: $10,000 in matching funds if $20,000 is raised in outside gifts
This exhibit of more than 600 historical artifacts, works of art, photographs, documents, and natural specimens – the largest and most comprehensive presentation ever assembled on the history and impact of the California Gold Rush – will explore the myth and realities of the gold rush, introduce new multicultural perspectives, and examine the continuing impact of this event on California society, politics, economics and environment. The project also includes a companion book, a two-day symposium, an eight-part lecture series and numerous educational programs for students and adults. The exhibition is scheduled to open on January 24, 1998.

The Impact of the Gold Rush on Native Californians Exhibit

Sponsor: Sacramento Historic Sites Association and Chaw Se Association
Project Director: Jon Burgasser
Amount of Award: $10,000
Based on recent scholarship in Native American history and insights from Native American culture bearers, this collaborative project will create two museum exhibits exploring the legacy of the Gold Rush in Native California communities. The exhibits of photographs, documents, oral histories and objects focusing on the environmental, legal, and educational impacts of the Gold Rush on Native peoples will also examine how Native Californians survived and maintained their cultural identities. The exhibits are scheduled to open in January 1998.

The U.S.- Mexican War (1846-1848)

Sponsor: KERA-TV, Dallas
Project Director: Sylvia Komatsu
Amount of Award: $10,000 in matching funds if $20,000 is raised in outside gifts
As a result of the U.S. - Mexico War (1846-1848), Mexico lost nearly half its territory and the U.S. gained more than half a million square miles of land, including California. While awareness of the war and its impact is widespread in Mexico, most Americans know little about an event that profoundly reshaped the cultural and political landscape of the continent. This award supports the completion of a four-hour television documentary, part of a bi-national effort to examine the historical, social and cultural forces and impacts of this war.

PUBLIC PROGRAMS

A Journey with the Voices and Faces of Highway 99

Sponsor: Merced County Courthouse Museum
Project Director: Andrea Metz
Amount of Award: $10,000
Developed as a result of the Council's "Highway 99: A Literary Journey" project, this intrepretive, traveling exhibit will examine how the waves of immigration that have made California's Great Central Valley one of the most culturally diverse regions of the United States have also influenced and enhanced the prodigious literary traditions of the region. Plans also include literary readings exploring the Central Valley's shared literary heritage. The exhibit will open at the Merced County Courthouse Museum in February 1998 and travel to museums in Lodi, Tulare, and Bakersfield during 1998 – and to CERA (California Exhibition Resources Alliance) museums in 1999.



From "A Journey with the Voices and Faces of Highway 99." Jim Cunningham, a fourth generation cattle rancher in Merced County. His great-grandfather settled in California in 1851. Photo by Roger J. Wyan, courtesy of the Merced County Courthouse Museum.

Walking Ancient Pathways: Native People of Baja California

Sponsor: Native Cultures Institute of Baja California, Chula Vista
Project Director: Michael Wilken
Amount of Award: $9,950
Drawing on the work of archaeologists, linguists, historians, and culture bearers, this bilingual exhibit of photographs, art, recordings, contemporary indigenous art and prehistoric objects illustrates the stories of the native peoples of northern Baja California and southern California. The exhibit will highlight the connections that existed before the region was split by the treaty of Guadalupe-Hidalgo in 1848, and the difficulties inherent in maintaining cultural identity and community in two different countries. Opening in late 1997, the exhibit will travel to Ridgecrest, Ventura, San Francisco, Jackson, Santa Barbara and San Diego by the end of 1999.

And Still We Rise! 500 years of African History: Which Word—Holocaust? Genocide? Maafa?

Sponsor: African American Writers and Artists of San Diego
Project Director: Mrs. Tchaiko R. Kwayana
Amount of Award: $2,500
This awards supports a scholar-led community discussion of the use of terms like holocaust, genocide, and maafa to describe African and African American experiences. Hotly contested and emotionally potent, these terms speak to issues of rediscovery, reinterpretation and reclamation of cultural and historical identity. The panel, which includes Dr. Ward Churchill, associate director of the Center for the Study of Race and Ethnicity in America at the University of Colorado, Lawrence Baron, Director of the Lipinsky Institute for Judaic Studies at San Diego State, and Dr. David Stannard, professor of American Studies at the University of Hawai'i, is also meant to broaden perspectives, as well as contribute to cross-cultural understanding.

Grants Awarded

Who Are We Here? Reweaving Lindsay's Community Identity

Sponsor: Friends of the Lindsay Library
Project Director: Deanna Pettus and Trudy Wischemann
Amount of Award: $10,000

Through the collection of local historical materials, photographs, slides, first-person narratives and oral histories, this community history project has a goal of strengthening community identity and contributing to a sense of place. Plans also include the development of dramatic portrayals (chautauqua) based on the collected narratives and oral histories.

Pursuing New Frontiers: California Volunteers in the Spanish-American War and the Philippines, 1898-1903

Sponsor: Fort Point and Presidio Historical Association, San Francisco
Project Director: Whitney Hall
Amount of Award: $10,000 in matching funds if $20,000 is raised in outside gifts

Marking the centennial of the Spanish-American War in the Philippines and Philippine independence from Spain, this exhibit explores the role of the California Volunteers in that war and the effects their participation had on defining California's – and the United States' – relationships with the Philippines and Asia. The exhibit will open at the San Francisco Presidio in June 1998, then travel to Los Angeles and Stockton.



From "Visions of Venice." Cyclists on Windward Avenue in Venice, California, n.d. Image courtesy of the Shishim Family.

Profiles of Afghanistan: Afghans in California

Sponsor: Eastern Arts, Fremont
Project Director: Katherine St. John
Amount of Award: $5,000

This project, consisting of an exhibit of traditional items from Afghanistan and Afghan families living in Northern California and a three-part public lecture series, examines aspects of the growing Afghan community in California. Scheduled to take place in September of 1997, the events will focus on: the history and culture of Afghanistan; the reasons Afghans come to California; and the way in which Afghans envision their future in California. Project activities will take place at the Alameda County Main Library in Fremont.

Visions of Venice

Sponsor: Venice Community Housing Corporation
Project Director: Joan Mandell
Amount of Award: $10,000

Since its founding by tobacco and real estate magnate Abbot Kinney in 1904, Venice, California has attracted a surprisingly diverse mix of people who have often been at odds with each other about what their community was to be and become. Why people have come and continue to come to Venice, what kinds of communities they have tried to create, and what legacies they hope to pass on to future generations will be the subject of this one-hour video documentary.

Pomo Basketweaving Program and Archival Preservation

Sponsor: IPS, Berkeley
Project Director: Jed Riffe and Sherrie Smith-Ferri
Amount of Award: $7,5000

This grant supports script development for a twenty-minute video detailing how Pomo Indian weavers cultivate, manage, harvest and prepare the plant materials used in their baskets. Working with anthropologists, and other scholars, the documentarians will also explore what these practices reveal about the Pomo Indian worldview, knowledge of their local environments and sophisticated management of land and natural resources.

MEDIA PROJECTS

The Odyssey of Captain Healy

Sponsor: KTEH-TV Foundation, San Jose
Project Director: Maria Brooks
Amount of Award: $10,000

This award supports script development for a television documentary examining the life and times of Coast Guard Captain Michael Healy. Born in 1839, the son of a slave and a white plantation owner, Healy ran away to sea when he was 15 and soon discovered he could pass as white. He rose to a captaincy, became known as the best navigator in the Pacific and, in 1885, was praised for bravery in a U.S. House of Representatives resolution. But a few years later Healy was accused in court of cruelty to seamen and villified for drunkeness. Using archival footage, diaries and newspaper accounts, and period photographs and music, the finished documentary will retell Healy's complicated history and examine how contemporary race, gender and class relationships helped shape that history.



From "The Odyssey of Captain Healy." Captain Healy (right) with his son Fred, circa 1890. Photo courtesy of the University of Alaska, Fairbanks and Maria Brooks.

Euthanasia and Physician-Assisted Death: The Right to Die Debate

Sponsor: KALW-FM
Project Director: Jeffrey Ramirez
Amount of Award: $5,000

Recent public interest and debate about euthanasia and assisted suicide have usually focused on the more sensational aspects of the issue, often raising without actually addressing troubling moral, legal and ethical issues. Through a series of four half-hour radio documentaries, this series will offer listeners an opportunity for serious consideration of end-of-life issues by providing them with multiple perspectives on the historical context of the debate and a variety of other practical, philosophical and moral issues related to death and dying.

SUMMER Calendar

The public humanities programs listed on these two pages were either created or supported by the California Council for the Humanities. Please note that dates and times should be confirmed with the local sponsors. These listings are often provided to CCH well before final arrangements are made.

Please also check the monthly calendar listings on the Council's world wide web pages at ***http://www.calhum.org/.***

EXHIBITS

Through Aug. 8 **"Diamonds in the Rough: Japanese Americans in Baseball"** is a traveling exhibit of rare photographs, personal artifacts, and historical documents about Japanese Americans in baseball. At the California State Capitol Museum, State Capitol, Room B-27, Sacramento. Please call 916/324-0312 for more information.

Through Aug. 15 **"Photography and the Old West"** is a CERA-sponsored exhibition of historical photographs by 19th and 20th century photographers, many of whom came west to record official government geographical or geological explorations and, later, the development of the railroads and other commercial enterprises. At the Clarke Memorial Museum, Third and E Streets, Eureka. 707/443-1947.



Photographer Timothy O'Sullivan's traveling wagon in the Carson Desert, Nevada. Image courtesy of Peter E. Palmquist.



From "Ocean View." Image courtesy of the UCR California Museum of Photography.

Through Aug. 17 **"Ocean View: A Depiction of Southern California Lifestyle"** is an interpretive exhibit of photographs and related videos and texts examining the cultural history of Southern California's beach lifestyle. UC Riverside California Museum of Photography, Riverside. 909/787-4787.

Through Aug. 24 **"Gum San: Land of the Golden Mountain"** is a CERA-sponsored exhibit of artifacts, historical photographs, and documents examining the presence and importance of the Chinese in the region's history. Old Courthouse Museum, 211 West Santa Ana Blvd. 25, Santa Ana. 714/834-2280.



From "Isn't S/He a Doll?" A figurine from the Namshi peoples, Cameroon. Photo by Denis Nervig, courtesy of the UCLA Fowler Museum.

Through Aug. 24 **"Isn't S/He a Doll? Play and Ritual in African Sculpture"** is a comprehensive exhibit surveying 200 works from 24 African countries and exploring functions of African figurines as playthings, ritual objects for cermonies of initiation, marriage, fertility and death, and as collectors items. UCLA Fowler Museum of Cultural History, Los Angeles. 310/825-4361.

Through Sept. 28 **"Between Two Worlds: The People of the Border"** is a CERA-sponsored exhibit of photographs by Don Bartletti that offers multiple perspectives on border life and on issues of migration. Tulare Historical Museum, 4444 West Tulare Ave., Tulare. 209/686-3703



Artist Frank Day with two of his paintings, Toto Dance at Bloomer Hill *(left) and* Before the Burning, *1973. Photo by Robert Schell from the collection of Herb and Peggy Puffer, courtesy of the Oakland Museum of California.*

Through Oct. 19 **"Memory and Imagination: The Legacy of Maidu Indian Artist Frank Day"** is an exhibit of more than 50 paintings by self-taught Konkow Maidu artist Frank Day (1902-1976), who played a major role in revitalizing Native American ceremonialism in Northern California. The Oakland Museum of California, 1000 Oak Street, Oakland. 510/238-2200.

Aug. 23 - Nov. 16 **"Photography and the Old West,"** the CERA-sponsored exhibition of historical photographs by 19th and 20th century photographers, moves to the Community Memorial Museum of Sutter County, 1333 Butte House Road, Yuba City. 916/741-7141.

Sept. 1 - Oct. 1 **"Profiles of Afghanistan: Afghans in California"** is an exhibition of images and objects related to the cultural heritage and daily life of Afghans now living in California. Alameda County Main Library, Fremont. 510/651-5894.

EVENTS



Early Chinatown was populated primarily by men, so it was called a "Bachelor Society." Though many men were married with families in China, Chinatown was a world without women. Photo by D.H.Wulzen/Frank E. Wulzen, courtesy of KQED-TV.

July 30 "Chinatown," a Council-funded television documentary about San Francisco's Chinatown neighborhood has its national PBS premiere (10 p.m.). Check your local listings.

July 31 "Blood, Sweat and Tears" is a panel discussion exploring the relationship of art to modern politics, war, and protest using posters and memorabilia from the Spanish Civil War and other cases of civil strife as examples. Track 16 Gallery, Bergamot Station, Santa Monica. 310/476-6275 or 213/653-4662.

Aug. 2 "The Women's Trade Union League in New York and Los Angeles: An Organizing Model From the 1920s" is a lecture about the history of the garment industry by Rebecca Mead, UCLA doctoral candidate in history. 10:30 a.m. Robinson's Building, 7th Street, Los Angeles. 213/466-6232.

Aug. 3 "Reflections on the Internment" is a slide/lecture by San Diego City College history professor Don Estes on the relocation of San Diego Nikkei. A panel discussion follows the presentation. 2 p.m. San Diego Public Library, Central Library, 820 E Street. Contact Lynn Whitehouse, 619/236-5821.

Aug. 4 The documentary film "Miss . . . or Myth" will be shown followed by a discussion led by scholars Peggy Guiles, Miri Hunter, and Jodi Platner. 1:30 p.m. UC Cooperative Extension, 224 West Winton Ave, Rm 174, Hayward. 510/670-5213.



Former model Ann Simonton arrested at "Myth" California protest.

Aug. 10 The documentary film "Looking Like the Enemy," which examines the wartime experiences of Japanese American veterans, will be screened. A discussion with filmmaker Karen Ishizuka, curator of moving pictures at the Japanese American National Museum, and Susan Hasegawa, assistant professor of Asian American studies at Mesa College, follows the program. 2 p.m. San Diego Public Library, Central Library, 820 E Street. Contact Lynn Whitehouse, 619/236-5821.

Aug. 12 CCH Grant Proposal-Writing Workshop will be held in San Diego. See notice in Humanities News on page 7 of this newsletter.

Aug. 16 As part of the Playwrights Project's "Spotlight on Four Angelinos" programs the lives of Sam Ortega and Kimi Kawamura, a dance instructor who survived the atomic bomb at Hiroshima, will be dramatized by Leo Garcia and Denise Uyehara. Glen Kitayama and Dr. Judith Richlin-Klonsky will lead a discussion exploring the themes and issues related to these two long-time Los Angelinos' lives. 1 p.m. Japanese American National Museum, 369 East First Street, Los Angeles. 310/273-6694.

Aug. 17 "The Price of Vigilance" is a lecture/discussion led by scholars Leland Saito and Tom Fujita about the impact of the relocation, issues of redress, and implications for the future. 2 p.m. San Diego Public Library, Central Library, 820 E Street. Contact Lynn Whitehouse, 619/236-5821.

Aug. 19 & 20 CCH Grant Proposal-Writing Workshop will be held in San Francisco. See notice in Humanities News on page 7 of this newsletter.

Aug. 22 CCH Grant Proposal-Writing Workshop will be held in Los Angeles. See notice in Humanities News on page 7 of this newsletter.

Sept. 5 "Afghan History and Culture" is the first of three lectures in the "Profiles of Afghanistan: Afghans in California" series. Alameda County Main Library, Fremont. 510/651-5894 for exact time and location.

Sept. 12 CCH Quarterly Board Meeting. The Council holds an all-day board meeting in San Diego. Call 415/391-1474 for more information.

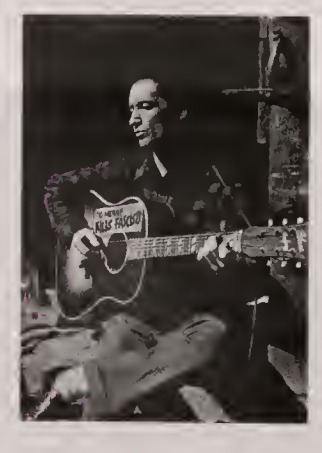
Sept. 12 CCH Grant Proposal-Writing Workshop will be held in Los Angeles. See notice in Humanities News on page 7 of this newsletter.

Sept. 13 "Afghans in California" is the second of three lectures in the "Profiles of Afghanistan: Afghans in California" series. Alameda County Main Library, Fremont. 510/651-5894 for exact time and location.

Sept. 18 - 20 "Nature's Workshop: Environmental Change in 20th Century Southern California" is a public conference examining the history of environmental change in California during this century. The conference will feature a lecture by UC San Diego Steve Erie on William Mulholland and the Owens Valley entitled "Chinatown Revisited: The True L.A. Water Story." CSU Northridge campus. 818/677-8249.

Sept. 20 "The Future for Afghans in California" is the last of three lectures in the "Profiles of Afghanistan: Afghans in California" series. Alameda County Main Library, Fremont. 510/651-5894 for exact time and location.

Oct. 4 "Comic Theatre as Social Protest" is a lecture by dramaturg and critic Lee Wochner accompanying a performance of Michael Folie's play "An Unhappy Woman." It is part of the Los Angeles County Arts Commission's Arts Open House. 6 p.m. (Play, separately, at 4 p.m.) Moving Arts, 1822 Hyperion, Los Angeles. 213/665-8961.



Woody Guthrie. Photo courtesy of the Woody Guthrie Archives and the Smithsonian Institution.

Oct. 4 "Pastures of Plenty: From Woody Guthrie and the Dustbowl Refugees to Cesar Chavez and the United Farmworkers" is a public symposium featuring lectures, discussions and musical performances focusing on labor union history and social activism in California. Southern California Library for Social Studies and Research, 134 South La Brea Ave., Los Angeles. 213/931-9321 for more information.

Oct. 4 - 5 "300 Years of California History: The Mission as a Frontier Institution Revisited" is a two-day event featuring a series of lectures, discussions and other activities marking the 300th anniversary of the founding of the first mission in the Californias at Loreto, Baja California. The Temple in San Diego Heritage Park. 619/483-4589.

Humanities News

Heidi Kuhn Appointed to the Council



Governor Pete Wilson has appointed **Heidi Thomas Kuhn** to the Council board. Kuhn is the founder and president of NewsLink International, a video production and television news service based in San Rafael. In that capacity she organized the first foreign news crew into the "closed city" of Vladivostok and covered the election of Russian president Boris Yeltsin, the first Russian democratic elections in 70 years. Previously, Kuhn was president of Alaska NewsLink.

Kuhn served on the Advisory Committee for the Governor's Conference on Arts Technology and was co-chair of the California Arts Council's Technology Task Force. She also serves on the boards of Freedom From Hunger, American Women in Radio and Television, the Marin Education Fund, DigiQuest Multimedia and the Marin General Hospital Foundation.

Kuhn holds a bachelor's degree in political economy from U.C. Berkeley. She lives in San Rafael with her husband Gary and their four children.

Internships Available

The Council has a number of internship opportunities available for undergraduate and graduate students in humanities disciplines. These opportunities are available in all three of the Council's offices. To find out more, interested students should contact Amy Rouillard in San Diego (619/232-4020), Debra Colman or Felicia Kelley in Los Angeles (213/623-5993) or Alden Mudge in San Francisco (415/391-1474).

Proposal-Writing Workshops Offered

The Council has scheduled proposal-writing workshops for people interested in submitting grant proposals at the Council's October 1 deadline.

In San Diego
Tuesday, August 12 10 a.m. to Noon
Spruce Street Forum, 301 Spruce Street

In Los Angeles
Friday, August 22 10 a.m. to Noon
Friday, September 12 10 a.m. to Noon

In San Francisco
For Public Project proposals
Tuesday, August 19 10 a.m. to Noon

For Media Project proposals
Wednesday, August 20 10:30 a.m. to Noon

The workshops are free but advance registration is required. Contact the Council office nearest you to register and confirm dates and locations (San Francisco - 415/391-1474; Los Angeles - 213/623-5993; San Diego - 619/232-4020). Please also request and read the current *Guide to the Grant Program* before attending the workshop.

Council Will Meet in San Diego in September

The California Council for the Humanities' quarterly meeting will be held in San Diego on September 12, from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. The location of the meeting had not been determined at press time. For further information, please contact the Council's San Francisco office.

The California Cultural Tourism Initiative: An Open Letter

Dear *Humanities* Reader,

We're writing to ask you to help create a coalition for cultural tourism in California. In mid-March, the four of us joined nearly 200 representatives from eight Western states at the Far West Cultural Tourism Leadership Forum in Los Angeles. There members of the cultural community and the travel industry met to discuss the issues surrounding cultural tourism and decide what steps each state might take next.

Culture and tourism begin as uneasy, even contentious partners. Cultural institutions like museums tend to be driven by missions and an urge to educate, while tourism is driven by markets and the profit motive. A marriage between the two is often driven by economic opportunity rather than natural affinity and like any relationship, requires a lot of talking and listening to ensure understanding.

The Los Angeles Forum's dialogue sessions were filled with calls for mutual respect, the building of trust, and forging of common vocabulary and values between cultural institutions and the travel industry. One session brought the entire gathering to its feet. In a keynote speech, Mas Masumoto, farmer, writer, and CCH board member, contrasted the values inherent in the cultivation and marketing of his "microbrewed peaches" compared to those of manifested by agribusiness. He had to pay attention to the winning the hearts and minds of his customers in attracting their dollars, Masumoto said, and he urged the group to create "micro-brewed places", places with stories, to complement the usual tourist destinations. Where the travel industry might speak of destinations and their attractions, cultural institutions tend to speak of places and their power. Places are best defined by their culture, by the stories born there and told about the place. A place, Masumoto declared, is a destination with a story.

Shortly before the conference, the National Endowment for the Arts awarded $150,000 to the California Cultural Tourism Initiative, a joint effort by Los Angeles, San Diego, and San Francisco. These three cities are to raise an additional $450,000 to develop 16 themed cultural itineraries in each city. The itineraries will be printed in four languages – English, German, Japanese, and Spanish – and will be created with the help of community committees.

What about the rest of California? At the forum's final meeting, the members of the California caucus (about 70 strong) recommended the creation of a coalition for cultural tourism that would meet regularly. The four signatories of this letter, representing the California Arts Council, California Council for the Humanities, the California Division of Tourism, and the California Office of Historic Preservation, agreed to meet and send this letter to its respective constituencies.

In addition, we were asked to 1) inventory existing research materials and methods, assess needs, and disseminate a report; 2) identify core values (such as cultural integrity and community involvement) for cultural tourism initiatives; 3) create a communications vehicle (such as a website, newsletter, etc.); and 4) investigate funding needs and opportunities.

All participants agreed to put cultural tourism on the agenda of their respective conferences and trade associations and asked that the Division of Tourism put cultural tourism representatives on the California Tourism Commission's Marketing Advisory Committee.

The four of us met in Sacramento on April 28. For the moment, we decided to meet bimonthly as the California Cultural Tourism Working Group until we determine what more formal association may be appropriate to promote cultural tourism throughout California. We each carried away assignments for our next meeting in July:

- Each organization agreed to share whatever research it has done on cultural tourism. The Division of Tourism, which has the best capacity to conduct such research, will share its research methods and instruments at the next meeting. We agreed to look over any survey instrument that might be developed – such as a proposed survey of California museums – to better capture information useful to cultural tourism initiatives.
- The Arts Council and the Division of Tourism are looking into communications vehicles that could be accessed statewide such as LANET, CALTOUR's website and intranet.
- The California Council for the Humanities and the Office of Historic Preservation will bring initial suggestions for a set of core values, such as those recommended by the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

Investigations of funding must necessarily await agreement on needed initiatives, but we hope our cooperation at a statewide level will serve to encourage similar cooperation at the local level. The working group should have more to report this summer, but you need not wait to begin initiatives or to contact us. If you or your institution have an initiative underway or in mind, please contact any of the four organizations below. The recent discussions in Los Angeles and Sacramento represent the beginning of a process that could take place in every community in California.

James Quay, *Executive Director*
California Council for the Humanities

Barbara Pieper, *Director*
California Arts Council

Cherilyn E. Widell, *State Historic Preservation Officer*
Office of Historic Preservation

John Poimiroo, *Deputy Secretary for Tourism*
California Trade and Commerce Agency

Humanities News

Julie Levak is Council's New Development Director



Julie Levak has been hired as the Council's new director of development. She will be responsible for nurturing private partnerships to support public humanities programs and projects throughout California.

Before joining the Council staff on June 16, Levak was a senior consultant with Mal Warwick & Associates for eleven years. In that capacity she designed membership, major donor and other communications and direct marketing campaigns for dozens of local and national nonprofits, including Human Rights Watch and the Nature Conservancy.

Levak holds a bachelor's degree in American history from Portland State University.

Julie Levak can be reached in the Council's San Francisco office at 415/391-1474.

NEH Chair Resigns

Sheldon Hackney, chairman of the National Endowment for the Humanities, has announced that he will resign from NEH on August 1, 1997. He will have completed a four-year term, which he began on August 4, 1993. He will return to the University of Pennsylvania for the fall semester of 1997.

Dr. Hackney chaired NEH during tumultuous times, a period during which Congress cut the agency's budget by nearly 40 percent. As a result, Hackney led efforts to redesign the agency in an effort to consolidate agency programs and make it more efficient and cost effective. Other initiatives included 1) the creation of the Enterprise Office, which will seek further partnerships in new areas of interest such as the millennium projects and technology in the classroom, the home, and the workplace; and 2) The National Conversation on American Pluralism and Identity, which brought together thousands of Americans in discussions about what it means to be American: who we were, who we are, and who we might become.

As this issue goes to press, President Clinton has not yet named a successor.

Celebrate National Arts & Humanities Month

October is National Arts and Humanities Month. With federal support for cultural activities dwindling, we urge you to plan early to use the occasion to attend and support cultural activities in your community and throughout the state. Check the calendar listings in the next issue of Humanities Network for Council supported programs and events throughout California. Call you local museums, historical societies, libraries, art galleries, colleges and universities, and other cultural organizations – and participate in the national celebration of art and culture during October.

Congressional Update - House Votes Level Funding for NEH and Eliminates Funding for NEA

Late in the evening of July 15, the U.S. House of Representatives defeated an amendment offered by Representative Steve Chabot (R-OH) calling for the elimination of the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH). The House then voted to approve an appropriation bill that includes $110 million for NEH in 1998. Five days earlier, in a series of procedural votes, the House eliminated all funding for NEH's sister agency, the National Endowment for the Arts (NEA).

The Chabot amendment was defeated by a vote of 328 to 96, with 195 Democrats, 132 Republicans, and 1 Independent voting against the amendment, and 92 Republicans and 4 Democrats voting in favor. The appropriations bill was passed by a vote of 238 to 192.

Attention now shifts to the Senate, where supporters have vowed to revive funding for NEA. Despite the House vote to eliminate funding for NEA, a proposal that would terminate NEA and create an arts block grant program for states and localities was soundly defeated, leaving open a strong possibility of restoration in the Senate.

According to *The Washington Post*, on July 15, "Senator James Jeffords (R-VT), chairman of the Labor and Human Resources Committee, introduced a reauthorization bill giving NEA and NEH each a five-year extension and proposing funding levels of $175 million for each endowment. The proposal also suggests combining duplicate NEA and NEH administrative services, such as printing and library services."

Both NEA and NEH need to be reauthorized to continue to exist, so Sen. Jeffords' bill is a hopeful sign. Actual funding levels, however, are set by the Senate Appropriations Committee. Senator Slade Gorton (R-WA), who heads the appropriations subcommittee that sets funding levels for NEH and NEA, is said to favor a modest increase in funds. Senator Barbara Boxer also serves on the appropriations subcommittee.

Jennifer Schwarting Joins the Council Staff

Jennifer Schwarting, a 1996 graduate of Cornell University, has been hired as the Council's new office assistant. It's her voice you are most likely to hear first when you call the Council's San Francisco office. Schwarting will also assist the Council's development efforts.

Until accepting the position with the Council, Schwarting was administrative assistant at the San Francisco School of Art. She holds a bachelors degree in fine arts from Cornell and continues to volunteer in support of the visual arts. Schwarting's other interests include poetry, film, traditional crafts, and feminist polemic. She joined the Council staff on July 8.

Nominations Invited

The California Council for the Humanities, an organization that creates and supports public programs exploring human cultures, histories and values throughout California, will be selecting several new members in 1998 and invites nominations from the public.

Council members are leaders drawn from public and academic life. Members serve three-year terms, renewable once.

The Council seeks outstanding board members from any part of the state, but to ensure that it reflects California's diverse geographical, ethnic and professional constituencies, this year the Council particularly welcomes nominations of Latinos

You are invited to submit names of citizens and scholars who are committed to advancing the humanities in public life. To do so, please complete the nomination form below and submit the following supporting materials:

1. A brief resume.
2. A statement indicating the nominee's occupation, education, areas of public serve, and special qualifications for membership.
3. A letter of recommendation (from someone other than yourself), if you are recommending yourself, or assurance that the nominee is willing to serve, if you are nominating another.

The Council anticipates only 2 vacancies next year, so make the strongest case you can for your nominee. Nominations must be received in the Council's San Francisco office no later than Friday, October 10, 1997.

Please note: *No nomination will be considered without the requisite supporting materials*

I nominate: _____

as a member of the California Council for the Humanities

Address: _____

City: _____ California Zip Code: _____

Nominee's professional title: _____ Phone: _____

Nominated by: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip Code: _____

Professional title: _____ Phone: _____

Mail Nominations to: CCH, 312 Sutter Street, Suite 601, San Francisco, CA 94108

CALIFORNIA COUNCIL FOR THE HUMANITIES

The humanities explore human histories, cultures, and volues. They inform the conversotians that are vitol ta o thriving democracy. They provide a cantext for peaple to understand one anather. They canstitute our mast importont human inheritance.

The purpose af the Colifornio Cauncil for the Humanities is ta create o stote in which all Califarnians hove lifelong occess to this shored inheritonce. The Council's mission is to leod in strengthening community life ond fostering multiculturol understanding throughout Califarnio, thraugh progromming which provides occess to the texts ond insights af the humanities cauncil. It is on independent state offiliote of the Notianal Endawment far the Humanities (NEH), and aperates as a public-private portnership rother than a gavernmental agency.

Fram 1998 to 2000, the Council will encouroge ond develap compelling public progromming commemoroting the events thot led to the faunding of the state of Califonia 150 years ago ond examining the continuing impact of those events todoy. The Council's own Colifornio Sesquicentennial programs will include stotewide choutouqua programs featuring in-persan portroyals of mojor figures of the ero; the creotion of o Gold Rush anthology (published by Heyday Baoks) ond statewide reading ond discussion groups focusing on that onthology, a troveling Gold Rush museum exhibition with the Ooklond Museum; and stotewide conference facusing on key Sesquicentenniol topics.

Council programs also include the Colifarnio Exhibition Resources Allionce (CERA) which pravides odministrotive support ond a means far sharing exhibits among members of o network of smaller museums, and Motheread, o family reading progrom in Los Angeles.

In addition, the Council conducts a competitive grants program. Since 1975, it has awarded mare than $13 million to over 2,000 non-profit arganizotions, enabling them ta praduce exhibits, film ond radio programs, ond lecture series ond conferences on topics significont to Califarnio.

The Council is an independent, not-for-profit arganization. It is supported by gronts from NEH, corporotions and foundations, ond by contributions fram individuals.

Mojor gront proposols ore due an April 1 ond October 1. Quick Grants – propasal plonning grants, minigronts, film-ond-speoker gronts – are accepted an the first doy of each month. Interested non-profit orgonizotions shauld request a copy of the Guide to the Grant Pragram from the Son Francisco office.

Poge proofs for this publicotion were creoted on equipment donoted by Apple Computer.

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Alden Mudge
Director of Communications

NEXT PROPOSAL DEADLINE: October 1,1997

Proposals must conform to the 1997-1999 *Guide to the Grant Program.* Send 15 copies to the San Francisco office by the due date.

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